

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope all Braes families are doing well just now. It has been really encouraging to see the positivity and maturity of our young people as they have been in school recently. As you will no doubt be aware, it is anticipated that all pupils will return to school full-time and in-person after the Easter break. Therefore we have been planning on this basis and will issue updated guidance to parents/carers and pupils shortly.

Please see updates on a number of matters below:

Friends at Braes raffle

The final date for the purchase of tickets is 30th March, with the draw taking place on 31st March. Tickets are £2 each or 3 for £5. Tickets can be bought online via the iPay Impact system (same online payment system used for lunches etc). Alternatively you can email friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com. The attached flyer gives further information. Among the generous prize donors are:

With Love Vikki
FAB Easter Hamper
Fresh Fish Place vouchers
Glebe Fashion
“The Beauty Room” by Susan
Patrick’s of Camelon
Jessica James Takeaway
AKM Events
Black Bull Inn
Linda’s Scents Online (Partylite)
The Wee Fudge Kitchen
Gill’s Jars

The proceeds from this raffle go towards funding of school activities and experiences for our young people. Some examples have included:

- Supporting extra-curricular clubs and activities with equipment, team strips etc
- Supporting the creative arts in our school with additional technology and resources for music, drama and art
- Supporting the transition process for pupils as they move from primary to secondary by funding transport for visits
- Funding the purchase of additional IT to support learning
- Funding the development of pupil-friendly spaces to further support pupils with additional support needs
- Support the school’s ecological projects
- Support the Pupil Council in their decisions about how funding should be spent

Library Newsletter

Please see the current newsletter from our school library, busy with really positive experiences for our young people as always. Thanks to Anne and pupil Louise Robertson for their work on this.

Bibliosaurus

Show My Homework

Following our ongoing development with the use of Microsoft Teams this session and anticipated further development in this area, we are considering whether to discontinue the use of Show My Homework in session 2021/22. If any parent/carers has any queries in relation to this please do not hesitate to contact me. Email - iain.livingstone@falkirk.gov.uk

Summer term – key dates and events

Please see key dates and information for summer term events.

Friday 30th April

Likely non-uniform day to mark end of Autism Awareness week activity led by our Equalities Group. This will be confirmed nearer the date.

May in-service days

These are scheduled for 6th May and 7th May. These are closure days for pupils.

Junior Awards

Plans are underway to celebrate this event within current restrictions, most likely through an online edition.

Senior Awards

Recognising the current situation, for this session only, at present we are planning to reschedule our Senior Awards for late August/early September. Hopefully these can take place in-person, if possible.

Senior Graduation

Given that it is unlikely we will be able to invite parents/carers and other guests into school this side of the summer break, and the need to ensure their departure from Braes is marked in a away families can also observe, the Graduation event for senior pupils will most likely take place via an online edition.

S6 Leavers' event

Should restrictions allow, it is planned to consider the feasibility of an outdoor event for our departing S6 pupils in June.

Assessment Moderation Days

These are confirmed for Falkirk Council as 7th and 8th June. These will be closure days for pupils.

Final Day of term - Friday 25th June

LFD Testing

This has now been extended as an offer to all pupils. We are seeing significant numbers of consent returns from families for pupil participation in this.

I recognise that a lot of communication is coming to families from schools just now. While I know parents/cares will appreciate the need for these communications, I appreciate that we are dealing with a great deal of ongoing change. To help with this, the majority of letters and communications are also stored on our school App and our school website, for later reference.

In the meantime, I am grateful for the continuing efforts of all in our school community. As we move forward to the final day of term of Thursday 1st April, we will continue to support our pupils and look forward to seeing further progress in the weeks to come.

Yours faithfully,

Iain Livingstone